The Brethren Evangelist.

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Float On.

Float on, float on, my heavenly bark,
Above the earthly tide;
Bear swiftly o'er life's ocean dark,
Beyond the billows glide.

Float on, and may thy grace divine
Be a light to every mind;
May each bark o'er mighty waves roll,
For thou art the anchor of the soul.

Float on, "my graceful-moving bark,"
And ever be my guide;
I'll ever to thy whisperings hark,
And by them will abide.

Float on, through the storms of life
Thy mercies I will implore.
Thou who guides my bark
Will land it on that blissful shore.

MRS. A. J. TALMADGE.

Williams, Oregon.

May 14.—Wife and I, on the 8th of this month, started for Ashland, where we had sent word we would be at that time. To our surprise they had appointed meeting for one week. We were sorry that we could not stay that long, and were compelled to disappoint them. But such is life in this world. It is full of disappointment and sorrow. I told them if they would let me off this time I would come back in six weeks and preach for one week, if it would be the Lord's will.

We have fine weather here now. Our fruit is all killed but the apples and berries. Farming is all done; crops look well; health is good.

Pray for us away here in Oregon.

W. PULLEN.

Westmoreland County Items.

On the 27th of April we said goodby to our native county for a while at least and started for our new home and field of labor; landed safely same evening. Next day we arranged our household goods, and ate at our own table.

We have now been here about five weeks and thus far like our home very well indeed. During this time the brethren, sisters and friends have very truly remembered the preacher. So much so that I sometimes thought of comparing larders with brother Spanogle.

We live in a pleasant place, just a short distance from our meeting house. Also close to the post office. We have meeting in the meeting house every two weeks at 10½ a. m., and at 7½ p. m. Sunday school at 9 a. m. each Sunday. We will have several other appointments to attend to also. Our membership now numbers 44, all told, with seemingly good prospects ahead.

We commenced a protracted meeting June 5th, to continue at least over *Whit* Sunday. All are invited.

STEPHEN HILDEBRAND.

Jones' Mills, Pa.

Nickerson, Kansas.

May 25.—The brethren at Little River, Kansas, met in their first quarterly council May 22nd, and had a pleasant and profitable meeting. Two brethren were formally restored to church membership, one of them J. H. Fishel, minister formerly of the 2nd degree in the German Baptist Brethren church. He was also reinstated in his office. May God abundantly bless him and his labor in the great soul-harvest, unto eternal life.

It was then decided to hold their lovefeast June 26th. Examination service at 2 o'clock p. m. Feast in the evening, at the Climax school house, about 4 miles North-west of Little River. The usual invitation is extended to the brethren of adjoining churchs. Persons coming by Rail will be met at the depot in Little River, by notifying Josiah Gochnour.

Ministerial help is needed and brethren ministers traveling over the M. & M. branch of the A. T. & S. F. R. R., will please bear this in mind. There is a welcome for you at Little River.

JACOB W. BEER.

Nickerson, Kansas.

West Independance, Ohio.

May 28.—One last Sabbath evening, a number of the U. B. church, who had previously made application to us for baptism, were buried with Christ in baptism according to the commission given in Math. 28:19.

I am sorry that our Feast comes on the same date of the Brethren's S. S. Convention at Louisville. I see they have me on the program, and should like very much to be there to assist in the work. However, I feel shure that if my worthy colleague, Bro. Brown, is present, the work assigned us will not suffer. I met Bro. Brown in S. S. convention and enjoyed it very much; really I consided that his presence is valuable to the success of any S. S. Convention. I trust and pray that the convention will be a grand and glorious success. We did not see the program until we had arranged to hold our feast on June the 12, and had given notice of the same through the press. Hence our mistake as to the time of holding our communion was unavoidable.

A. M. RIDENOUR.

Notes From Virginia.

Old Virginia is coming up in the ranks with her correspondents. This is right, let's have all the church news and essays from as many as possible. When the mind is thinking on religious essays it is at least kept out of mischief, besides the religious training it gets and the good done to others.

Bro. Edward Mason gave a very touching account of meetings he and Bro. Mallott held in Ohio. Ever since Bro. Mallott visited Virginia we have predicted a grand and successful future for him. He has in my opinion, genuine Christianity all over and in him. He is a Sam Jones in our church, not so much in sentimental sayings, but in soul-saving and church awakening qualities. (We have a score of other very good ministers also, who are hard to equal.) May nothing impede his progress, but that he may continually show to mankind God's law and love for all. We venture to say that he will in the end wear a crown so thickly set with jewels that God will be glorified by giving him a dwelling in His kingdom.

We need still many men with consecrated hearts and minds.

You are right, Bro. Editor in keeping out from the pages of the EVANGELIST all communications in regard to church difficulties.

Let us love our enemies, do good to those who dispitefully use us and speak all manner of evil against us falsely for Christ's sake. It takes men with hearts as broad as long to do so, but in doing so we are promised eternal life. "Overcome evil with good," and not say something mean of a man when he says something ugly of us, and not too when a man strikes you hit him in return to show your manhood. Give him a gospel stroke only, if you claim to be doers of the gospel.

Although I do not believe if an enemy place an obstruction in my path, that I shall pass over it at the risk of injuring myself, nor do I believe in not defending God and His word; but I do not approve of taking the obstruction out of my path and tossing it at or placing it in my enemy's way.

G. A. COPP.

Fisher's Hill, Va.

The Brethren Tract Society.

I promised to say something about our work, and will do so briefly. If any point is not touched, we will be glad to answer any questions and send speciman tracts on receipt of stamps.

I had been used to circulating tracts and lifting collections for the society, and two of the things I first asked for on coming into the church was a church history and tract society, and found neither.

I was constantly meeting people who seemed to have questions hanging on every finger and ready to throw at me, and I did not always have the time to give a reason for the hope within me, so I wrote and printed a tract: it did me good service and I had issued some thirty thousand pages. It has been scolded and slandered in turn, but I have evidence that it has brought souls to Christ, so the flaw-pickers can keep on, I will do the same.

Some of our brethren became interested in the work and wishing to do the most good, we organized a society to be known as The Brethren Tract Society. The object of which is to circulate Bible truth by means of tracts, and thus help elevate the world and honor Christ by saving souls.

Our enemies have said some hard things about us, and some old circular letters written by me under fire have been thrown out as specimens of our tracts, such efforts will only fall on the heads of those who make them. We are circulating literature that you want to put in the hands of those not members of the church.

Another thing our friends must remember, all tracts we issue may not do to circulate in your neighborhood just now. Yet those tracts not suitable for you just at this time, will be at another time and do now in some other churchs. The world is large and the wants many.

And your familiarity with a subject is no proof against the use of a tract on that subject. It is for the man not familiar with it. Immersion is simple to me now but there was a time when I could not see immersion in the word.

Our efforts are appreciated. Kind words come in from every side, and we have issued about forty thousand pages which is good work for a society only two months old.

This is exclusive of the tract I published last year. We could have done more, but our means have been limited.

The tracts are sold at the rate of one hundred pages for 10 cents, but we do a little better than that, and if a dollar is sent we will send two thousand pages, our object is to circulate literature, not to make money. We have the best of facilities and have the work down to a fine point.

Membership in our society will cost $1. We send each member a package of every tract published during the year, and will also send to each member our sermon on immersion which will soon be published by Bro. Garber. This will cover a point not worked and will interfere with no sermon on the subject already printed.

We have six tracts on baptism and in addition we have tracts on the following subjects: "The Baptistery of San Pongiano Rome," with cut of basin dating nearly back to Paul; "Why we practice washing the saint's Feet," a four-page tract, short and pointed; Conversions as recorded in the Book of Acts;" "Highwayman and Rumseller," a very sharp temperance tract, containing two cuts; "It is the hand of Christ," a tract on giving;" "Our Origin, Object and Name"; &c., &c.

We mention these tracts merely to show the nature of our work. You need not be afraid or ashamed to help us. If you detect any error or anything of the kind let us know; we will be glad to have help in this direction, and any subject you may need, say so. We are working for the cause and ask your immediate help.

J. D. MCFADDEN, Agent.

The Brethren Tract Society, Hagerstown, Md.

Another Church Dedicated.

Sunday, May 16th., 1886, was the time appointed for the dedication of the new frame church, belonging to the brethren of the Maple Grove congregation in Norton Co., Kansas.

The morning was a fine one, and the assembly was large and attentive to the very able discourse delivered by Elder C. Forney of Burr Oak, Jewell Co., Kansas. His remarks were based on the first chapter of Haggai, and were very appropiate to the occasion.

After the sermon we proceeded to raise the small balance of encumbrance hanging over the trustees, incurred by this building. Our effort in this direction was quite successful, and in due time the congregation was dismissed when we repaired to the water and administered the rite of baptism to two souls made willing through those meetings to follow Christ in all of his appointed ways.

One sister also united with us on this occasion by letter. We are very hopeful for strength in all these converts and trust we will not be disappointed. We are in good condition for Zion to prosper in our midst and now have a good place in which to hold services, and we invite ministers to call on us as often as possible. We again extend our thanks and best wishes to our friends who assisted us so nobly in the building of our new house unto the Lord.

M. LICHTY.

Gathered Gems.

If a man is faithful to truth, truth will be faithful to him. He need have no fears. His success is a question of time.—*Professor Phelps.*

God screens us evermore from premature ideas. Our eyes are holden that we cannot see things that stare us in the face, until the hour arrives when the mind is ripened, and the time when we saw them not is like a dream.

A truly humble-minded man, who trusts in his God, may have many arrows shot at him; but they do not hurt. He lies too low; they all pass over him, for God exalts him above them.—*Central Baptist.*

There is never a "Might-have-been" that touches with a sting, but reveals also to us an inner glimpse of the wide and beautiful "May be." It is all there. Somebody else has it now while we wait.—*A. D. T. Whitney.*

Always abound in the work of the Lord. He who waits to be appreciated by the world loses precious time. Some of the best of man's work must wait for recognition until the resurrection of the just.—*Our Church News.*

Exceeding gifts from God are not blessings; they are duties, and very solemn and heavy duties. They do not always increase a man's happiness; they always increase his responsibility—the awful account which he must render at last of the talents committed to his charge. They increase, too, his danger.

The notion of death, as we feel it, seems to have vanished entirely from St. Paul's mind—he speaks of things so in a continuity, not even referring to the change, not even saying *before death* or *after death*, as if death made no atom of difference in the progress of holy events, the divine history of the individual and of the race together.—*Miral ces.*